

~~TOP SECRET SENSITIVE~~ CONTAINS CODEWORD
DELIVER AT OPENING OF BUSINESS VIA SRF CHANNELS WH42401

TOHAK 035

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY

JULY 7, 1974

FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM

SUBJECT: INFORMATION ITEMS

ETHIOPIA REMAINS CALM: THE POLITICALLY TENSE ATMOSPHERE IN ADDIS ABABA APPEARS TO BE EASING IN THE WAKE OF THE EMPEROR'S RECENT AGREEMENT TO MILITARY SUPERVISION OF THE GOVERNMENT AND TO ACCELERATION OF CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES. THE MILITARY HAS EASED THE BAN ON TRAVEL BY PERMITTING THE FOREIGN MINISTER--WHO NEGOTIATED THE AGREEMENT--TO VISIT ZAIRE, AND SOLDIERS HAVE BEEN WITHDRAWN FROM OUTSIDE BANKS. MEANWHILE, SIX MORE TOP OFFICIALS--CHARGED WITH CORRUPTION--HAVE SURRENDERED THEMSELVES TO MILITARY ARREST.

US EMBASSY SEOUL CALLS FOR INFORMATION ON PEKING POLICY ON KOREA: AMBASSADOR HABIB HAS REQUESTED THE DEPARTMENT'S "THOUGHTS OR ANALYSIS" ON CHINESE POLICY TOWARD KOREA AND THE US MILITARY PRESENCE THERE. HIS REQUEST IS PROMPTED BY OBSERVATIONS OFFERED IN PERSONAL CONVERSATION BY THE SOUTH KOREAN FOREIGN MINISTER ON JULY 5. THE FOREIGN MINISTER CLAIMED THAT RECENT CHINESE COMMENTARY AND PROPAGANDA INDICATE A STRONG POSSIBILITY OF AN OFFICIAL SHIFT IN PEKING TOWARD A HARDER LINE ON KOREAN POLICY. HE WAS PARTICULARLY UPSET BY CALLS IN PEOPLES' DAILY EDITORIALS FOR AN "IMMEDIATE" END TO THE US MILITARY PRESENCE IN SOUTH KOREA. CHINA-WATCHERS IN HONG KONG ARE LESS CONCERNED. A ROUTINE REPORT FROM THE CONSULATE-GENERAL ON PEKING'S OBSERVANCE OF THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE NORTH-SOUTH KOREAN JOINT STATEMENT OF JULY 4, 1972 CONCLUDED THAT THE CHINESE WERE APPARENTLY CONTINUING

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ON-FILE NSC RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

State Dept. review completed

NSA review
completed

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PAST EFFORTS TO APPEAR IN CLOSE SUPPORT OF THE OFFICIAL NORTH KOREAN LINE ON REUNIFICATION.

MEANWHILE, AT A PRESS CONFERENCE IN NEW YORK, NORTH KOREAN PERMANENT OBSERVER KWON MARKED THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE JOINT STATEMENT WITH A PREPARED STATEMENT STRESSING WITHDRAWAL OF US TROOPS FROM SOUTH KOREA.

T O P S E C R E T